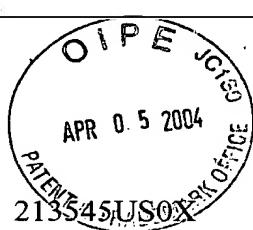


DOCKET NO: 213545US0X



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
NICOLE DUSCH ET AL : EXAMINER: RAMIREZ, D.
SERIAL NO: 09/965,825 :
FILED: OCTOBER 1, 2001 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1652
FOR: PROCESS FOR THE :
FERMENTATIVE PREPARATION OF D- :
PANTOTHENIC ACID USING :
CORYNEFORM BACTERIA

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated December 4, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.